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Message Text

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43
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-04 FEA-01 CU-02 /059 W
---------- 115825
R 041520Z NOV 74
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1666
INFO AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT VIA POUCH
AMEMBASSY CAIRO VIA POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 1186

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT LY
SUBJECT: OPENING SESSION OF LIBYAN PARTY CONGRESS

1. SECOND CONGRESS OF LIBYAN ARAB SOCIALIST UNION, QADHAFI'S IMITATION OF NASSER'S "POLITICAL GROUPING", BEGAN NOVEMBER 4. YASSER ARAFAT MADE SURPRISE APPEARANCE (SEPTEL), AND SHORTLY AFTERWARD QADHAFI MADE A TYPICALLY THEATRICAL ENTRANCE IN MIDDLE OF SPEECH BY ASU SECGEN AND RCC MEMBER MAJOR HAWWADI. ALSO ON PODIUM WERE RCC MEMBERS PRIMIN JALLUD, MININT HUMAYDI, CHIEF OF STAFF YOUNES, AND MAJOR KHARRUBI. DIPLOMATIC CORPS OBSERVED FROM THE BALCONY.

2. QADHAFI DOMINATED PROCEEDINGS, AS USUAL, IN HIS CAPACITY AS ASU CHAIRMAN. HE BEGAN BY CALLING ON JALLUD TO TALK ABOUT HIS TRAVELS IN EAST AND WEST EUROPE AND THNS SOVIET UNION. JALLUD SAID NOTABLY THAT HIS VISITS HAD DEFEATED U.S. PLOTS TO REDUCE PRICE OF OIL, AND THAT HE HAD SIGNED AGREEMENTS IN EASTERN EUROPE AND SOVIET UNION TO PROVIDE LIBYA WITH MODERN WEAPONS. AFTER PROMPTING BY QADHAFI, JALLUD ADDED PRAISE FOR RESULTS OF QADHAFI'S OWN TRAVELS.
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OF QADHAFI'S DECEMBER 1973 "PRESS CONFERENCE" IN

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FRANCE, FOR EXAMPLE, JALLUD SAID IT HAD "SHAKEN AND OVERTURNED THE IDEAS OF EUROPE".

3. VARIOUS MINISTERS WERE THEN CALLED TO MICROPHONE ON CONFERENCE FLOOR TO ACCOUNT FOR THEIR DEPARTMNT TO CONGRESS, INTERRUPTED FROM TIME TO TIME BY A PEREMPTORY QADHAFI. BEFORE STARTLED MINISTER OF INFO DURDAH HAD CHANCE TO TALK ABOUT HIS MINISTRY'S

ACCOMPLISHMENTS, QADHAFI TOLD CONFERENCE FLATLY THAT

LIBYAN MEDIA WERE "IN A MESS". AN ARMY OF UNQUALIFIED PEOPLE WROTE REAMS OF THINGS WHICH NOBODY READ. NEWS-PAPERS EXPRESSED NARROW POLITICAL POINTS OF VIEW, AND WERE OUT OF STEP WITH TH REVOLUTION. OVER POOR DURDAH'S PROTESTS ("BUT BROTHER MU'AMMAR, I HAVE A REPORT TO READ.."), QADHAFI TOLD HIM TO SAVE HIS REPORT FOR "LATER". MINISTER OF INDUSTRY TALHI WAS INTERRUPTED BY QADHAFI IN MIDDLE OF A PARTICULARLY DULL PRESENTA-TION AND MOTIONED TO SIT DOWN.
AFTER MINISTER OF EDUCATION SHARIF SPOKE QADHAFI DELIVERED HIMSELF OF SOME OF HIS INIMITABLE IDEAS ABOUT COEDUCATION. MEN AT THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE SHOULD NOT STUDY GYNECOLOGY IF THERE WERE WOMEN AVAILABLE AND WOMEN SHOULD NOT STUDY GEOLOGY. THERE SHOULD
BE SEPARATE DEPARTMENTS FOR MEN AND WOMEN AT UNIVERSITIES.

7. INTERACTION CIVILIAN TECHNOCRATS AND YOUNG RCC MEMBERS AT CONFERENCE IS INTERESTING, AS TWO GROUPS ARE RARELY SEEN TOGETHER IN PUBLIC. IT IS A WONDER ABLE LIBYANS LIKE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT GAUD AND MINED SHARIF STAY IN GOVERNMENT IN FACE OF WHAT MUST OFTEN BE ERRATIC INTERFERENCE FROM QADHAFI AND COMPANY, WHO SEEM TO TREAT THEM LIKE SCHOOL-BOYS.
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